## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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decision. Well, this is our opportunity. When one of your constituents runs up to you and say, why doesn't government act like business, you can say, well, we did, and we are, and here's how we do it. And we've developed the expertise in-house. We've developed the models. We have confidence in them. We've even asked, and in fact we did over the summer, we ask other people to review our methodology to tell us whether it was valid. We constantly ask people to review the output from our models to tell us whether or not they think it's valid, whether we've missed something, whether or not we haven't taken something into account, whether we're getting the right results. We ask other people to check on us. We want to know whether we're getting the right information to use as a tool for a decision-making process. So here...so here, with this amendment, we would inject just a little bit of business, just a little bit of business into state government. But if you vote against it are you going to tell your constituents that you didn't want government to do business like a business; you didn't want to know how much things were going to cost; you didn't want to use econometric models to tell you what future benefits might be offset by future costs, and what the net present value of those things are; and if they were going to make a decision for their business you wouldn't recommend that they did that because it wouldn't tell you anything that was useful, when you know that they do, in fact, spend money on that; that they in fact make decisions that way? What would you tell your constituent in that example? I suppose you'd just tell them, well, government isn't a business; we just don't make decisions the same way; we just don't think of the same things. Would you tell them you didn't care where we spent their money on? Would you tell them you didn't care how much it cost?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: I don't think those are things that you would tell them and I don't think those are things that you would believe. You do care what things cost. You do care whether it confers a benefit on the state of Nebraska. So why...why not add the availability of that kind of information to a board that is going to make important decisions about state money?